

A New Species of *Petrea* (Verbenaceae) from Brazilian Amazonia

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ABSTRACT. During preparation of a revision of the genus *Petrea* (Verbenaceae), it has become evident that six specimens from white sands in Roraima, Brazil, represent a new species that is herein described and given the name *Petrea campinae*. The new species is most closely related to *Petrea brevicalyx* from the same area.

Petrea campinae Rueda, sp. nov. TYPE: Brazil.

Roraima: along the road from Manaus to Caracaraí, km 350, left side, 00°06'N, 60°40'W, 12 Feb. 1979 (fl), *W. Rodrigues, et al. 10100* (holotype, MG; isotypes, COL, INPA). Figure 1.

Frutex 1.5–5 m altus, ramulis puberulis. Folia breviter petiolata, laminis subtus foveatis, ellipticis, 5–10 cm longis, 1.5–6 cm latis, coriaceis, asperatis, apiculatis, venis secundariis 6–10. Inflorescentiae 10–22 cm longae, 2–5 cm latae; bracteis 2–4 mm longis, pedicellis 6–10 mm longis. Flos lobis calycinis 4–8 mm longis rotundatis, corolla hypocrateriformi, azurea, puberulo-glandulosa, 1.2–1.5 cm longa, lobis 3–6 mm longis, inaequalibus.

Shrub 1.5–5 m tall; branches tetragonal or subterete, minutely pubescent, pith well developed. Leaves decussate; petiole 3–8 mm long; blade elliptic, apiculate or truncate at apex, obtuse at base, 5–10 cm long, 1.5–6 cm wide, coriaceous, asperous, glabrous above, intricately pitted beneath with abundant short hairs in the pits, the midrib elevated above, prominently elevated beneath, the secondary veins brochidodromous, 6–10 on each side forming an angle of 60° with the midrib, impressed above, elevated beneath, ascending, with strongly defined veinlets delimiting the pits, the margins entire to slightly undulate. Inflorescences racemiform, axillary or terminal, many-flowered, 10–22 cm long, 2–5 cm wide; bracts setaceous to foliaceous, 2–4 mm long; pedicels 6–10 mm long; rachis, bracts, and pedicels minutely pubescent. Flowers with calyx glabrous, the lobes 5, unequal, rounded, 4–8 mm long; calicinal crest 5-cleft; corolla hypocrateriform, straight or curved, blue, glandular-pubescent, 1.2–1.5 cm long, the limb lobed, 5–8 mm wide, the lobes 5, ovate, 3–6 mm long, unequal; stamens 4, attached to corolla throat, the filaments stout, about 1.5 mm long, the anthers oblong; ovary globose,

the style included, 2–3 mm long, the stigma capitate; basal disk about 1 mm long. Fruit not seen.

Paratypes. BRAZIL. RORAIMA: along BR 174 between Manaus and Caracaraí, 6 km S of equator, in a campina, 00°04'S, 60°40'W, 17 June 1985 (fl), *Cordeiro et al. 76* (INPA, SP); Road Manaus–Caracaraí, between km 345 and 360, in a campina, 15 Mar. 1984 (fl), *J. L. dos Santos, & Coelho 690* (INPA).

The *Cordeiro et al. 76* collection is from a shrub 5 m tall and is anomalous in having one pair of blades fused on a single petiole. This same specimen also has very anomalous flowers. Some of the flowers have 7 sepals and petals and a 7-parted calicinal crest; there is also a fifth stamen with deformed anthers. This is the only known case in *Petrea* L. where the calyx and corolla are not strictly 5-merous.

Petrea campinae resembles *P. brevicalyx* Ducke in having leaves elliptic, intricately pitted beneath, and calyx with short rounded lobes; it differs by having unequal calyx lobes, twice as long as those of the latter species, and it is erect, whereas *P. brevicalyx* is a liana.

All the collections of *P. campinae* come from sandy campinas in Roraima, from which vegetation formation the specific epithet is derived. Endemism in these white sand areas is common, as Prance (1982) noted for several species of Chrysobalanaceae. Another typical campina phenomenon illustrated by this new species is a shrubby habit in a taxon whose related forest species are lianas. This also occurs, for example, in the Bignoniaceae in the same area in the cases of *Distictella monophylla* Sandw. and *D. laevis* (Sandw.) A. Gentry (Gentry, pers. comm.).

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Literature Cited

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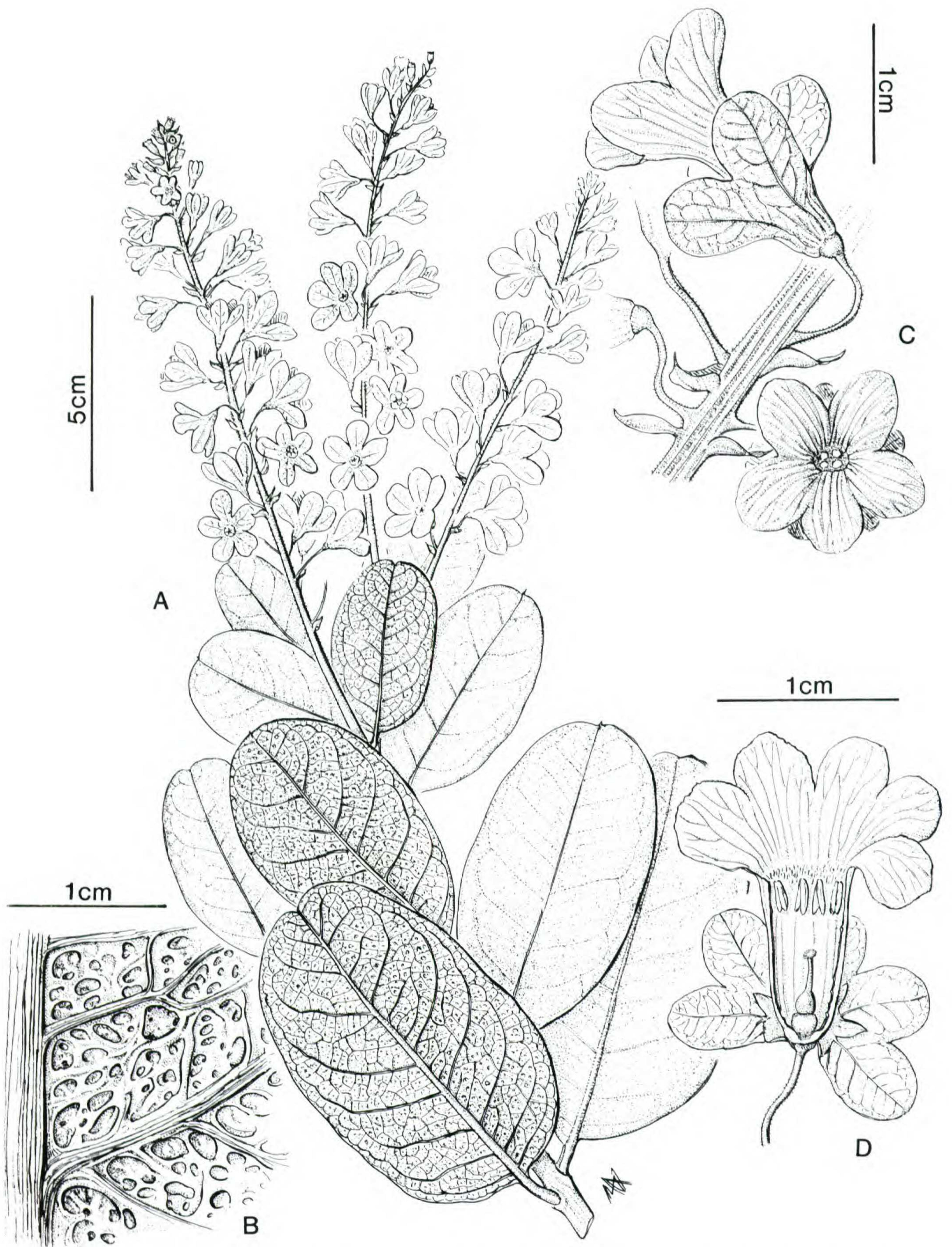


Figure 1. *Petrea campinae* Rueda (*W. Rodrigues et al. 10100*). —A. Habit. —B. Close up of abaxial leaf surface, showing pits. —C. Flower. —D. Flower, cut longitudinally and laid open.